To provide an overview on international students in context of permanent immigration:

- Profile of international students
- Update on GoC/CIC priorities and recent initiatives
- Work permit programs for international students and channels for permanent immigration
- Labour market outcomes of international students
- Next steps
Overview of International Students and Immigration

- Attracting international students to Canada important for federal, provincial and territorial (PT) governments and educational institutions
  - International students contribute approximately $6.5B to Canadian economy (Source: Economic Impact of International Student in Canada, July 2009)

- International students represent important source of skilled labour during terms of study and after graduation
  - High level of interest by international students to work and immigrate (Source: CBIE 2009 Survey of International Students)

- Students who immigrate permanently integrate well into Canadian labour market

- Recent initiatives by CIC to allow students to work during and after studies, and facilitate transition to permanent residence
Increasing Numbers of International Students

- Annual entries increasing in recent years
  - 85,301 international students entered Canada in 2009

- Total number of students residing in Canada also increasing
  - 196,227 students residing in Canada (as of December 1, 2009)

- Canada’s current international student pool represents potential immigrants of tomorrow

Source: Facts and Figures, Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Most Significant Group of Students at PSE Level

- Largest share of international students at Post-Secondary Education (PSE) level
  - 35,718 students entered Canada at university level in 2009 (42% of Canadian total)

- Number destined to other PSE, particularly community colleges, also growing

- Graduates from public PSE and degree programs at private institutions are potential candidates for PR if they obtain Canadian skilled work experience

Source: Facts and Figures, Citizenship and Immigration Canada
GoC/CIC Initiatives to Attract and Retain Students

GoC/CIC have introduced initiatives to improve attraction, stay and retention of international students to Canada:

- Launch of marketing campaign to promote Canada (Imagine Brand)
- Changes to modernize immigration system (e.g. online applications)
- Establishment of Vanier Graduate Scholarships
- Introduction of opportunities to work during studies and after graduation (e.g. Off-Campus Work Permit Program, Post-Graduation Work Permit Program)
- Canadian Experience Class (CEC)
Canadian Work Experience Key to PR Transition

Number of avenues for students to work, noting importance of Canadian work experience for transitioning to PR:

On Campus Employment
- No work permit required if student working at public PSE institution or private PSE institution authorized to confer degrees
- Not possible for CIC to track numbers, but high uptake in graduate studies for research assistantships, teaching assistantships, and related positions

Co-op Work Permits
- “Open” work permits for duration of study if work component is a requirement for graduation
- 10,387 Co-op WPs issued in 2009

Off Campus Work Permits
- “Open” work permits for duration of study for students at public PSE institutions and private PSE institutions authorized to confer degrees
- 17,192 Off-campus WPs issued in 2009

Post-Graduation Work Permit
- “Open” work permits for graduates of public PSE and degree programs at private PSE institutions
- Length of permits up to 3 years depending on length of study program
- 15,432 Post-graduation WPs issued in 2009
Number of former students choosing to immigrate is increasing, noting growing importance of post-graduation employment

International students transitioning to permanent residence primarily through Skilled Worker Class, Canadian Experience Class (CEC), Provincial Nominee Programs, and Family Class

Canadian Experience Class introduced on September 17, 2008
- Since implementation, over 5,000 have applied through the student stream and over 3,000 admitted (as of June 30, 2010)
- 86% approval rate for 2010 under the student stream

| Number of International Students transitioning to permanent residence directly from student status and after post-graduation employment, 2005-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| From Student Status | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| | 7,962 | 10,020 | 10,315 | 10,764 |
| From Foreign Worker Status (Post-graduation work permit only) | | | | 9,246 |
| | 562 | 1,113 | 1,457 | 2,071 |
| | | | | 3,683 |
| Total Former Students transitioning to PR | 8,524 | 11,133 | 11,772 | 12,835 |
| | | | | 12,929 |

Source: CIC Facts and Figures
Positive Labour Market Outcomes for Students after Transition

- Former international students with previous Canadian work experience integrate well into Canadian labour market and economy, e.g.:
  - Skilled Workers with previous Canadian educational and work experience earn approximately $10,000 more per year than Skilled Workers without work or educational experience in Canada
  - Surpass Canadian earnings average after one year

- Significant macro-economic benefits given growing number of students transitioning to PR

**Earnings of Skilled Worker Principal Applicants with and without previous Canadian educational and work experience, 2000 Cohort (2006 Constant $)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>SW PAs no previous Canadian experience</th>
<th>SW PAs with 2 years educational and 1+ yr. work experience</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>$13,021</td>
<td>$32,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>$32,975</td>
<td>$58,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$46,329</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>$58,831</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Immigration Database
Canada: The Way Forward

- Improving Canada’s standing as a destination of choice for international students a priority for federal and PT governments

- June 2010 – Federal and PT Ministers of Immigration committed to working together to improve Canada’s standing as a destination of choice for international students seeking a quality education

- Mandate to improve joint federal-PT management of entry and stay of international students to Canada, and improve program integrity

- Expected outcomes include: strengthened program management, an improved image for Canada as a provider of quality education, reduction in fraud in the international student movement, and improved levels of service to international students

- CIC and PTs in early stages of discussions

- CIC and PTs will formally engage associations and institutions in coming months
Building from experience: Student Partners Program

- Possible changes to ISP building from experience with Student Partners Program in India

**Background**

- Launched in 2009 as pilot with 20 colleges –2010 changed to regular program and expanded to 38 colleges (now 39)
- Main goal: to increase approval rate for those destined to participating colleges, while ensuring program integrity and minimizing immigration violations
- Tools Used to Achieve Goal:
  1. Streamlined but more demanding set of verifiable supporting documents;
  2. Commitment by participating colleges to report back concerning academic standing status of students;
  3. Dedicated points of contact and communication channels at CIC and community colleges to manage information flow

- For 2010, minimum IELTS score for SPP increased to 6.0

**Results**

- 2009: 3182 Study Permits issued, 79% approval rate compared to 35% for 2008 applicants destined to SPP colleges
- Study Permits issued to SPP members colleges more than triple 2008 totals
In Closing

- Attracting international students to Canada important for number of economic and social reasons, including as source of potential immigrants

- Early participation in work permit programs important for students to gain Canadian work experience, and for eventual transition to permanent residency

- Need to improve awareness among students of channels for permanent residency among international students, particularly Canadian Experience Class

- Important to continue to track transition trends and labour market outcomes of former students after immigration